

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/805,308

Examiner

Travis M. Reis

Applicant(s)

TSUEDA ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to telephonic interview on 2/15/7.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 11, 21, 22 and 24-33.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Articola on February 15, 2007.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 14, after "layer", the following text has been inserted ---wherein the ferrite material of the central shaft is divided into a plurality of portions in a longitudinal direction, a first subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrous (Fe), a second subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrite---.

Claim 2 has been deleted.

In claim 11, line 16, after "generator", the following text has been inserted ---wherein the ferrite material of the central shaft is divided into a plurality of portions in a longitudinal direction, a first subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrous (Fe), a second subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrite---.

In claim 22, line 13, after "layer", the following text has been inserted ---wherein the ferrite material of the central shaft is divided into a plurality of portions in a longitudinal direction, a first subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrous (Fe), a second subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrite---.

In claim 24, line 17, after "second means", the following text has been inserted ---wherein the ferrite material of the fifth means is divided into a plurality of portions in a longitudinal direction, a first subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrous (Fe), a second subset of

said plurality of divided portions being ferrite---

In claim 26, line 13, after "means" the following text has been inserted ---wherein the ferrite material of the fifth means is divided into a plurality of portions in a longitudinal direction, each divided portion being ferrous---

In claim 31, line 7, after "layer", the following text has been inserted ---wherein the ferrite core is divided into a plurality of coil portions in a longitudinal direction, a first subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrous (Fe), a second subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrite---

In claim 33, lines 1-2, "the coil is divided into a plurality of coil portions, and" has been deleted.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With reference to claims 1, 22, 28, & 30, the prior art of record does not disclose or clearly suggest a heat generating apparatus for use in a heating apparatus comprising wherein the ferrite material of the central shaft is divided into a plurality of portions in a longitudinal direction, a first subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrous (Fe), a second subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrite, in combination with the remaining limitations in the claims.

With reference to claims 11, 21, & 29, the prior art of record does not disclose or clearly suggest a fixing apparatus comprising wherein the ferrite material of the central shaft is divided into a plurality of portions in a longitudinal direction, a first subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrous (Fe), a second subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrite, in combination with the remaining limitations in the claims.

With reference to claims 24 & 25, the prior art of record does not disclose or clearly suggest a heat generating apparatus for use in a heating apparatus comprising wherein the

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ferrite material of the fifth means is divided into a plurality of portions in a longitudinal direction, a first subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrous (Fe), a second subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrite, in combination with the remaining limitations in the claims.

With reference to claims 26 & 27, the prior art of record does not disclose or clearly suggest a fixing apparatus comprising wherein the ferrite material of the fifth means is divided into a plurality of portions in a longitudinal direction, each divided portion being ferrous, in combination with the remaining limitations in the claims.

With reference to claims 31-33, the prior art of record does not disclose or clearly suggest a fixing apparatus comprising wherein the ferrite core is divided into a plurality of coil portions in a longitudinal direction, a first subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrous (Fe), a second subset of said plurality of divided portions being ferrite, in combination with the remaining limitations in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kikuchi et al. discloses a fixing member (U.S. Patent 6957036).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Travis M. Reis whose telephone number is (571) 272-2249. The examiner can normally be reached on 8--5 M--F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

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supervisor, Diego Gutierrez can be reached on (571) 272-2245. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Travis M Reis
Examiner
Art Unit 2859

tmr
February 20, 2007



Diego Gutierrez
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800